

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0499

EXDIS

FOL TEL RCVD FROM RECIFE 12 DEC 74 SENT ACTION BRASILIA BEING
RPTD FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

RECIFE 0249

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, BR

SUBJECT: GENERAL RYNALDO ON PAULO SA

REF: RECIFE 248, 191, AND 183

1. IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH FIRST ARMY COMMANDER, GENERAL REYNALDO, ON DEC 8, LOCAL USAID ENGINEER PAULO SA ASKED ABOUT THE MILITARY VIEW OF SA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH FRED MORRIS. (NOTE: MORRIS' WIFE USED TO WORK FOR USAID/RECIFE IN SA'S DEPARTMENT, AND HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH MORRIS RESULTED FROM THAT PERIOD.) GENERAL REYNALDO RESPONDED THAT THE ARMY DID NOT BELIEVE PAULO TO BE INVOLVED WITH MORRIS' SUBVERSIVE ACTIIVIES. THEE HAD BEEN SOME REPORTS, REYNALDO CONTINUED, THAT PAULO MAY BE WORKING WITH THE CIA, HOWEVER.

2. SA TOLD THE GENERAL THAT THE LATTER CHARGE WAS PREPOSTUROUS AND WONDERED WHY SUCH A REPORT COULD BE CIRCULATING. REYNALDO SAID THE BELIEF WAS THAT IT APPEARED STRANGE TO MANY THA PAULO WOULD BE THE ONLY EMPLOYEE REMAINING OUT OF A PREVIOUSLY LARGE USAID COMPLEMENT. AND WHAT'S MORE THAT HE WAS A BRAZILIAN EMPLOYEE:

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WHY HADN'T AN AMERICAN OFFICER BEEN ASSIGNED THE POSTION.

REYNALDO HASTENED TO ADD THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE STORY. BUT SAID HE HAD SEEN IT IN AN ARMY REPORT. THIS HAD BEEN ONE OF THE FACTORS WHICH HAD CAUSED SOME TO BELIEVE FRED MORRIS, AS PAULO'S FRIEND, MAYHAVE BEEN A CIA AGENT ALSO. THE GENERAL THEN COUNSELLED SA THAT HE SHOULD PROBABLY TAKE A LONG VACATION, PERHAPS TO THE U.S. TO LET THINGS COOL DOWN.

3. SA FELT COMPELLED TO EXPLAIN THE REASONS FOR HIS BEING ASSIGNED BY USAID TO REMAIN AS A MONITOR ON CERTAIN LOANS IN THE NORTHEAST UNTIL MARCH OF 1975. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE INTENDED TO SEEK BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT FOLLOWING HIS TERMINATION WITH USAID.

4. COMMENT: PAULO SA CONTINUES TO RECEIVE DAILY ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE THREATS AGAINST HIS PERSONAL SAFETY AND THAT OF HIS FAMILY. THE CALLS BEGAN SHORTLY AFTER MORRIS WAS DETAINED AND AFTER SA HAD APPROACHED , AT MY REQUEST, A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND IN THE FORTH ARMY ASKING ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF MORRIS EARLY ON OCT 1, 1974. A FEW INDICATIONS IN THE NATURE OF THE CALLS SINCE THAT TIME HAVE CAUSED BOTH SA ANY MYSELF TO TENTATIVELY CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS A GREAT LIKELIHOOD THATHIS ANTAGONISTS ARE MEMBERS OF THE ORGAO DE SEGURANCE WHICH APPREHENDED AND INTERROGATED MORRIS. I HYPOTHEZIZE THAT THESE ELEMENTS RESENTED OUR INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF MORRIS WHICH SPOILED THEIR "GAME" AND CREATED CERTAIN DISCOMFORTS OFR THEM AFTER THE CASE HAD BEEN RAISED IN BRASILIA AND INVESTIGATIONS DEMANDED. HARRASSING SA IS ONE WAY, IN THEIR PERVERSE VIEW, OF "GETTING BACK" AT US FOR THE ACTION WE TOOK. AND CERTAINLY IT IS A WAY TO MAINTAIN THE FICTION THAT THERE ARE "TERRORIST SUBVERSIVES", WHICH THE ANONYMOUS CALLER IS SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT, STILL AT LARGE MAKING A STRONG, VIGILANT INTERNAL SECURITY SYSTEM ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

6. OF THE EVENTS THAT HAVE TRANSPIRED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MORRIS DETENTION AND EXPULSION, IT IS THIS CONTINUOUS HARRASMENT OF SA THAT IS PERHAPS THE MOST UNPLEASANT AND SADDEST. ALTHOUGH A CONSULATE SECURITY GUARD IS STILL STATIONED AT SA'S HOME AT NIGHT AND WE HAVE RECEIVED A PROMISE FROM THE TELEPHONE COMPANY THAT HIS PHONE NUMBER WILL BE CHANGED SHORTLY. THE CALLS PERSIST. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THE TORMENTORS WILL TIRE OF THEIR CRUEL GAME AND STOP MAKING THE CALLS AS TIME

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AND OTHER EVENTS TAKE THEIR ATTENTION AWAY FROM FRED MORRIS AND PAULO SA.
BROWN
UNQUOTE
CRIMMINS

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